

### **If you suspect you have lead paint**

- Tape over loose, chipping or peeling paint
- Keep windowsills and floors below windows clean
- Keep windows closed

### **To reduce health risks when removing lead paint**

- Keep children away from area
- Prevent dust and lead vapors-do not sand or use heat guns
- Spread plastic to catch chips; wet down area to eliminate dust
- Each day when work is finished, scrub area and wash hands and clothing

### **Other sources of lead in the home**

- Painted toys and/or old furniture
- Food and liquids stored in lead crystal or lead-glazed pottery or porcelain
- Hobbies that use lead such as refinishing furniture or making pottery, jewelry or stained glass

**For more complete information on the identification and safe handling of lead paint, please contact our office.**

## **POPULATION HEALTH SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS**

**Animal Care and Control  
Food Safety and Inspections  
Individual Sewage Disposal  
Insect, Rodent & Vector Control  
Laboratory Services  
Lakes Management  
Nuisance Control  
Radon  
Solid Waste  
Swimming Beach Testing  
Water Wells  
West Nile Virus Surveillance**



**Central Permit Facility**

500 W Winchester Road

Libertyville, IL 60048

847.377.8020 FAX 847.984.5622

## **Lead Awareness for the Homeowner or Renter**



## ***Is There Lead Paint in Your Home?***



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**Lead paint may be present if your home was built before 1978**



**Lead paint chips off in squares or rectangles.**

Even at low levels in children, lead may cause a range of health effects, including behavioral problems and learning disabilities. While there are other sources of lead, eliminating the lead paint in your home would greatly reduce the incidence of childhood lead poisoning.



**Latex paint, which does not contain lead, peels instead of chips.**

Paint containing lead is water resistant. It is most commonly found around windows, exterior doors, porches, garages, bathrooms and kitchens. Even some old varnishes contain lead, so solid wood floors may be a source of lead.

Lead paint is often covered by layers of newer paint. It becomes a hazard when lead dust is released from friction, as paint deteriorates or when it is disturbed during remodeling or renovation. Children frequently ingest lead by putting toys into their mouths, or by touching dusty surfaces and then putting their hands in their mouths.

Thoroughly washing children's hands with warm soapy water before eating, and keeping toys and surfaces dust-free will reduce the risk of lead ingestion.

If you suspect you may have lead paint in your home, test kits for lead are available at most home improvement or hardware stores. While they may not be 100% accurate, they should at least give you an idea if lead is present in your home. To be safe, any questionable paint should be treated as if it contained lead to avoid health risks.



**Testing suspected lead paint using a lead swab.**